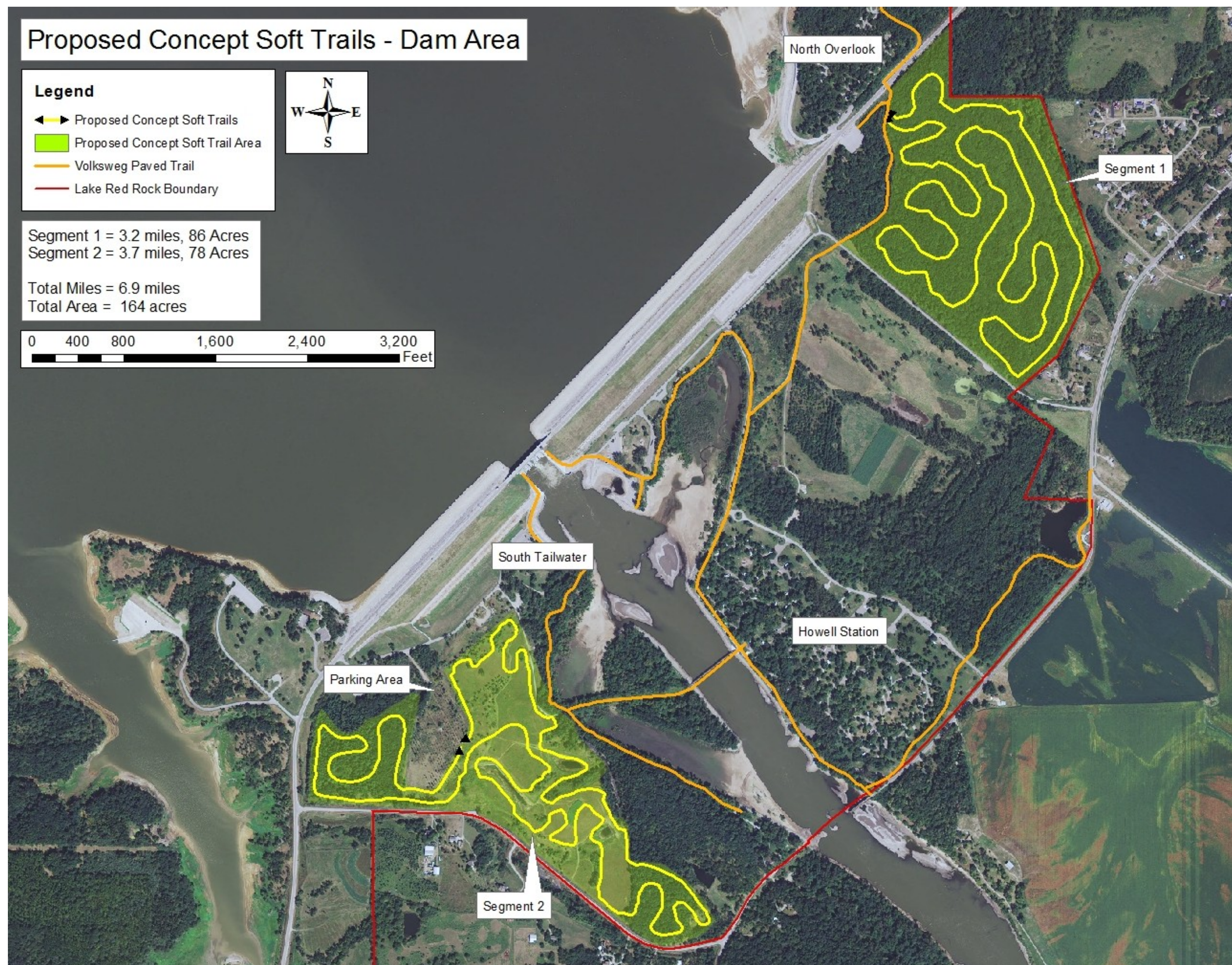


Red Rock Master Plan

Focus Area - A Natural Place to Play

Goal:

- Develop Low Consumptive Active Resource Based Recreation Opportunities



Convert North Overlook Nature Trail to a soft trail; Develop a soft trail at the wetland complex in South Tailwater

Benefits

1. Proposed Concept Soft Trails combined acreage is 6.9 miles.
2. Paved Volksweg Trail connects two segments of soft trails together.
3. Low impact recreation on environmental features at South Tailwater Wetland Complex and North Overlook.
4. Focus group input.
5. Strong partnership potential.



Mountain Biking, Trail Running, Backpacking, Growing in Popularity

According to the Outdoor Research Foundation interest in activities requiring soft or dirt trails such as mountain biking (10%), trail running (15%) and backpacking (19%) all increased by double digits in their 2008 poll. All types of biking ranked fourth overall nationally in terms of participation rates but second in terms of frequency of participation.

In an informal questionnaire by the Lake Red Rock Association mountain bike/multipurpose trails was the fifth most frequently mentioned request with nearly 14% of 171 respondents mentioning soft trails as a need.

Limited Opportunities for Soft Trail Activities in Central Iowa

The closest soft trail dedicated to and maintained for mountain bike use is the Banner mines trail about 40 miles from Red Rock Dam. Sugar Bottom Rec. area is the only other public trail available in the Central Iowa area but is a 2 hour drive from the Lake. Facilities for mountain biking trails do not appear to be meeting demand for this growing outdoor recreational activity.